



AMERICAN RIVERS-NOAA COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP NOW ACCEPTING PROPOSALS FOR RIVER RESTORATION GRANTS

American Rivers is seeking proposals for community-based river restoration grants as part of its partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Community-based Restoration Program. These grants are designed to provide support for local communities that are utilizing dam removal or fish passage to restore and protect the ecological integrity of their rivers and improve freshwater habitats important to migratory (anadromous) fish. Grants will be limited to projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and California.

Eligible groups will demonstrate how their project: (1) will successfully restore anadromous fish habitat, access to existing anadromous fish habitat, or natural riverine functions; (2) is the correct approach, based on ecological, social, economic, and engineering considerations; (3) will minimize any identifiable short- or long-term negative impacts to the river system as a result of the project; (4) has had community involvement in project decision making and may have community involvement in the implementation; and (5) will have the potential for public outreach and education. Successful applicants will be given non-renewable grants to assist in the technical application of fish passage or dam removal.

Applications are currently being accepted for the first cycle of fiscal year 2004 with a deadline of November 1, 2003. Applications for projects need to be postmarked by the deadline for consideration for the funding cycle. In fiscal year 2004, applications will be considered in two cycles with the second deadline falling on April 1, 2004. We encourage potential applicants to contact American Rivers to discuss potential projects prior to submitting an application.

For a complete application and eligibility guidelines, please go to the American Rivers web site www.amrivers.org/feature/restorationgrants.htm or contact us at the address below. For more information on the NOAA Community-based Restoration Program and its partners, please visit www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/community/index.html.

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